

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176319
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APPROVED BY:EB/OA/AN-RABROWN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

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FOR ASST SECRETARY KATZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT TOKYO 12512 ACTION SECSTATE DATED JULY 11, 1978.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 12512

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: NORTHWEST SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 182759

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFFS PRESENTED POINTS ON NORTHWEST (NW) SCHEDULE REVISION (REFTEL) TO FOREIGN MINISTRY (MOFA) AND JCAB. WATANABE DID NOT CONTEST RELEVANCE OF OUR MAY 17 FILING OF NW SCHEDULE, BUT EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT USG CONTINUED TO SUPPORT NW OVERNIGHTS. BOTH MOFA AND JCAB LEFT IMPRESSION AN INTERIM APPROVAL OF REVISED SCHEDULE WAS POSSIBLE UNTIL MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED IN CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS THIS FALL. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFFS HAD ALREADY REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS WITH GOJ
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OFFICIALS TO CORRECT SITUATION CREATED BY MEETING ON NW SCHEDULE WITH WATANABE ON JULY 5. INSTRUCTIONS (REFTEL) ARRIVED BEFORE THESE MEETINGS AND WERE UTILIZED POINT BY POINT.

3. K. WATANABE, DIRECTOR OF FIRST NORTH AMERICA DIVISION, MOFA, WAS VISIBLY TAKEN ABACK BY ECOUNS REFERRAL TO MAY 17

NORTHWEST AIRLINE'S (NW) APPLICATION FOR JUNE 8 SERVICE. HE HAD OBVIOUSLY FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT. HE CONCEDED IT HAD NOT BEEN "SUPERCEDED," BUT EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE USG DID NOT AGREE THAT, BY LEAVING MINNEAPOLIS TWO HOURS EARLIER, NW COULD ELIMINATE THE OVERNIGHT IN JAPAN. HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT SOME SORT OF TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION COULD BE WORKED OUT.

4. ECOUNS THEN CALLED ON DIRECTOR GENERAL C. TOMITA, JCAB, WHO TOLD US IN RESPONSE TO POINTS IN REFTEL THAT THE GOJ HOPES NW WILL MOVE ON ITS OWN TO SOLVE OVERNIGHT PROBLEM. HE INDICATED THAT JCAB WAS CONSIDERING APPROVAL OF NW SCHEDULE, BUT WITH A TIME LIMIT SOMEWHAT BEYOND THE FALL CIVAIR TALKS. HE ALSO STATED THAT GOJ HAD NOT MOVED SOONER ON THE NW CASE BECAUSE OF THE STRIKE.

5. TOMITA ALSO REFERRED TO HIS DISCUSSION WITH PAN AM (SEPTTEL) IN WHICH HE ASKED THEM TO BEGIN HONOLULU/OSAKA/ HONOLULU SERVICE ASAP. IMMEDIATE SERVICE BY WIDE-BODIED JETS WAS IMPORTANT HE SAID, BECAUSE THE JCAB HAD APPLIED CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND "ITS A QUESTION OF OUR CREDIBILITY AT STAKE." MANSFIELD UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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